

Eastern Express

March/April 2009

The Newsletter of the Eastern Library System—ISSN # 1064-3486

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From the Executive Director

Kathy Tooker

"Becoming a leader is synonymous with becoming yourself. It is precisely that simple, and it is also that difficult."

"The most dangerous leadership myth is that there is a genetic factor to leadership. This myth asserts that people simply either have certain charismatic qualities or not that's nonsense; in fact, the opposite is true. Leaders are made rather than born." - Warren Bennis

Over 120 Nebraska Library Leadership Institute (NELLI) graduates would agree with the above quotes—a person can acquire the skills and techniques to become a leader. As Warren Bennis would say, "it is all about knowing what we are made of and what we want and you can become the maker of your own life."

That is what the 2009 NELLI is all about, helping librarians and library media specialist become leaders. For more information, go to the Eastern Library System home page at www.elsne.org or give us a call at 402-330-7884.

The Nebraska Library Leadership Institute - "What it means to me" By Robin Clark, director of the Sump Memorial Library in Papillion

As a paraprofessional, I was attracted to NELLI in 2001 because it offered training in leadership skills, one of my passions. I was working in a public library as computer support, senior outreach and "other duties as assigned". I loved my job, but I wanted more - especially full time hours. I had read about NELLI on the ELS website and talked with my supervisor about attending. I decided to write a continuing education grant to the ELS for my tuition and take vacation days in order to be able to attend. I received the grant and sent my application in and was thrilled to be accepted.

I had never been to the monastery in Schuyler where the institute is held, far from the mad-dening crowd. What a beautiful facility. The grounds have a walking trail around a pond with a fountain. It was so serene – certainly not like the work environment of most public librarians. I welcomed the quietness and the time for reflection.

The first day of the institute we were placed into groups, each with two mentors. We had taken the online personality tests and were prepared to hear how our Enneagram types affected our leader-

ship style. I was fascinated by how clearly the tests had identified my strengths and weaknesses. There were speakers from business and government in the evenings. Along with the infamous water gun fight which almost got us kicked out of the monastery, tug of war, and other team building activities so that we could get to know one another on a different level. As John and Becky, the presenters, led us through the institute, I felt that there was a reason that I was there, I just wasn't sure what the next step should be. (continued on page 2)

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On the night before we were to leave and return to the “real” library world, I asked to talk with my two table mentors alone. Nancy and Bev sat down with me and I told them that I felt like I was supposed to be doing something with the information that I had been given that week, but I wasn’t sure what that something was. They suggested that if I wanted more out of my career that I should go back to school and get my bachelor’s degree. And then I should get my Master’s degree in Library Science.

I took the information that I gathered that week back home and shared it with my husband. He was supportive of my going back to school and finishing my bachelor’s, which I did in a year at Bellevue. I chose a management degree because I knew that I wanted to go into administration.

With my bachelor’s degree in hand I applied for and received an administrative position in July of 2002, a month after I graduated. I had the support of numerous NELLI attendees who wrote letters of reference for me for this position. I became more involved in the Nebraska Library Association, beginning with the paraprofessional section. I found the same collegial spirit in NLA that I had experienced at NELLI. Many of the officers and committee members were NELLI graduates.

This could have been the end of my NELLI story had it not been for the constant encouraging and professional relationship building that continued. I and three of my original table mates from NELLI continued to meet every other month to talk about our careers, our goals, and to keep the information flow going. I saw other NELLI graduates at meetings and conferences and it was fun and interesting for me to compare notes to see how each was using what they had learned at NELLI. I became more active in NLA and MPLA, finding a commonality and shared vision with those in leadership positions.

I knew that the MLS was next – and again, NELLI folks wrote my letters of reference when I applied to the graduate program at MU. They were the people that I turned to when I had questions in my career. They ALWAYS had great advice. I still remember one professor who will go unnamed who told me - you need to get your MLS and be the boss.

So that’s what I did. I started by taking a class a semester at MU, and then finished by taking three the last two semesters because I was ready to move on in my career. Always NELLI folk were there to answer questions and sometimes provide a swift kick when I needed it.

I graduated with my MLS in 2007 and I have NELLI to thank. I accepted a management position in Kansas City, Kansas and enjoyed it, but the crystal ball professor and my NELLI Enneagram personality profile were right – I needed to be the boss. Luckily for me, NELLI came back into play again when several NELLI folk called to tell me about a library director’s job in Papillion. WOW, talk about payback time. I was thrilled to apply for the position, hoping that I would be hired and be able to give back to the Nebraska library community a small portion of what I had received. I’m excited to be one of the mentor’s at this year’s NELLI and hope that I will be able to provide for others what was made so freely available to me. When you grow a librarian, you grow a community.

NELLI provided an opportunity to identify my personal strengths which propelled me forward to finish my bachelor’s degree and then an MLS. The peers and mentors at NELLI provided a network of constant encouragement and professional relationship building that still continues eight years later. The Eastern Library System grant and Kathy Tooker’s belief in me made NELLI possible for a paraprofessional. I can honestly say that the reason I am a Library Director today, less than ten years later, is because of what happened that week at NELLI. Oh, and did I mention that it was FUN???



Nebraska Library
Leadership

July 20-24, 2009
July 20-24, 2009

Green Libraries: What Libraries Can Do

by Kathy Tooker, ELS Executive Director

Twelve vision statements came out of the Future Search Conference held in July 2009. To keep the vision alive and developing, the Regional Library Systems are highlighting the visions in their newsletters with the purpose of encouraging continued discussion among librarians, library staff, boards and their communities. A vision that generated a lot of interest and discussion was that of eco-friendly "green libraries," plus it ties in with Earth Day, April 22.

Vision statement to consider: Going green starts @ your library®: the library models environmentally sustainable practices, places, and policies and shares these with the community.

It has become one of the hot topics in library literature. Libraries by virtue of their position in their community should be seen as a model for others. As Laura L. Barnes says in the *Illinois Library Association Report* of October 2008, "The good news is that the library's core services are already eco-friendly because they encourage people to borrow rather than buy materials." Libraries can demonstrate environmental awareness by doing small changes in their buildings as well as by thinking green in the design of a new or remodeled building. Other ways of going green are by having a green core collection and by encouraging people in the community to pay attention to their green footprint by reducing, reusing, repairing, and recycling.

Library Buildings

Places good place to go for information on green buildings include:

- Green Libraries (www.greenlibraries.org) which lists books and web sites for green libraries that have already been built with green sensibilities.
- Leadership in Energy and Environment Design, (LEED) at www.usbgc.org was established by the U.S. Green Building Council and

provides standards for environmentally sustainable construction, evaluating projects within six categories: site development, energy efficiency, materials selection, water efficiency, indoor environmental quality, and innovation in design.

Most libraries must work with existing the buildings, but there are many smaller changes that can be made to reduce the environmental impact.

- Have an energy audit of the building to look at lighting, windows and doors, heating and cooling.
- Replace old electronic equipment with more energy efficient ones.
- Provide bike and skateboard racks.
- Replace incandescent bulbs with energy saving ones.
- Install occupancy sensors to turn off lights when room not in use.
- Use green cleaning products.
- Use reusable cups, plates, etc instead of disposable ones.
- Check out free software from GreenPrint (www.printgreener.com) to avoid printing blank pages.
- Print on both sides of the paper.

Your Collection

Business- and home-owners need information on how to do it. Have books, magazines, DVDs and web sites accessible in the library's collection that will encourage your customers to think green when it comes to purchasing, living, and working. *Library Journal*, February 1, 2009, has a bibliography of green resources in their Collection Development section with starred items as being essential for most collections. This is available through Library Journal Online at www.libraryjournalonline.com/article/CA6630783.html.

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Community

Libraries can take the lead in the community by encouraging and educating the public on ways they can integrate green measures into their lives.

- Collaborate with local environmental groups to be a community recycling drop-off site for batteries or used electronics.
- Establish an environmental book club. Novels with an environmental theme could be used.
- Plan a program for children and teens on reducing our environmental foot print by creating a craft out of discarded or junk materials. Sites such as holidays.kaboose.com/earth-day gives ideas using recycled items. A great place for ideas for older kids and teens is *The 6R Movement: Reduce, Reclaim, Redesign, Recycle, Renew* (VOYA October 2008).
- Advertise that the library is a green library and display library materials that relate to the environment and green technology.
- Hold a community forum to discuss steps to take to incorporate eco-friendly measures into daily lives.

Remember that “greening the library” improves not only the quality of life, but can also save money.

Ethical Situations: What Would You Do?

You hear a staff member call a library patron and leave the following message: “This is the public library. I am calling to tell Dave the book he wanted, *Divorce for Dummies*, is being held for him at the library.” He needs to pick it up within the next three days.

The library system prints out receipts of current library materials and current fines. Also printed is the patron’s name as well as their library membership number. Is this ethical?

An older brother asks as the circulation desk of a public library, what the title is of the book his younger sibling has lost. He says his mother wants to know so she can look for it.

Ethical situations are seldom black and white and can lead to very interesting discussions.

Attend the Eastern Library System Annual Meeting on June 12 at the Thompson Alumni Center, UNO, to hear presenter Pat Wagner talk about library ethics.

Worth Checking Out

Professional Collection Additions

Three College of DuPage Teleconferences DVDs are available for loan. These teleconference recordings do not count as part of the number of hours for public library continuing education credit.

- *Library Spaces: Future Needs*, March 7, 2008
- *Trends, Fads or Folly: Spotting the Library Trends That Really Matter*, April 11, 2008
- *Reversing the Ratchet: Basic Technology Adoption Strategies for Library Workers*, November 7, 2008

Web Sites to Check

<www.inpics.net> InPictures online tutorials are based on pictures, not works and are free with nothing to download. Tutorials include Microsoft Office, Photoshop Elements, HTML, CSS, Dreamweaver and more.

<www.newseum.org/todaysfrontpages/flash> To see the front pages of newspapers across not only the US but also North American, Asia, Caribbean, Europe, Oceania, South American, and Africa just click on the dot and the front page of a newspaper headlines will pop up. Double click to make the image larger.

Book Web Sites

- Book Sprouts <www.booksprouts.com> Join and/or create an online book club
- Blippr <www.blipr.com> Add a short review of books, movies, games, and applications and rate them.
- 22 Books <22books.com> Allows you to create book lists of any type with comments.
- Book Cover Archive <www.bookcoverarchive.com> Collection of over 1,000 book covers
- Book Jetty <www.bookjetty.com> Set up your own book shelf and also connect with friends bookshelves. Can then search your local library to see if book is available.
- Book Glutton <www.bookglutton.com> Social community where you read public domain books and discuss within a group.

System News

Christmas Came Early to the Scribner Public Library

On a Monday morning last month library director, Jeanette Groppe, received an unexpected surprise. The new city administrator, Al Vacanti, came into the library to get his first official tour and meet the staff. Along with him came 61 brand new books valued at \$11,000. The books were donated by various authors from across the United States. Several books were signed by the authors, including John Grisham, Paula Deen, Dean Koontz, and former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani. In all, 36 authors responded to the request. Among the donations were 17 children's books, including the entire "Olivia" set of five books from Falconer. Mr. Vacanti, a former fund-raiser, sent out letters to contacts requesting the books, including an autographed poster from Eric Carle.

Book Sale

The Keene Memorial Library - Friends of the Library Annual Book Sale will be held April 3-5 at the city auditorium, 9th and Broad Street in Fremont. Since May of last year the "friends" have met at the library annex and sorted seventeen times. From noon to 5 pm on Sunday the 5th everything is 1/2 price.

Upcoming Exhibit at UNO's Criss Library

The NASA Apollo 11 Anniversary Exhibit will be at the Criss Library from April 18-May 30. Apollo astronauts orbited and landed on the surface of the moon, safely transported 238,857 miles by the 36-story Saturn V rocket. Armstrong and Aldrin became the first humans to walk on the Moon 40 years ago this July. This exhibit includes an Apollo space suite and helmet, light-boxes, computers containing information, and other memorabilia.

Bellevue University

The Freeman-Lozier Library now provides students with access to the 24/7 Librarian and can now converse with a live reference librarian using Question point, which is cutting-edge reference software from OCLC. In addition to conversing with students in real time, the 24/7 Librarian has a full co-browsing feature which enables the librarian and student to view the same web pages and other services that require authentication.

Omaha Public Library

A Teen Job Fair will be held at the Swanson Branch on Monday, April 6—noon to 4 p.m. Teens ages 16-19 will have the opportunity to speak to representatives from approximately 30 companies in Omaha. Employers may distribute applications, provide information and/or conduct interviews at the fair.

The Lyons Public Library planned and hosted a "Country School Reunion" in January. The event was part of the Lyons 125th anniversary celebration. The afternoon included informal visiting, sharing photos, recalling memories and a short program. This was an intergenerational activity because the teens helped with coats, served coffee, and enjoyed learning about country school life from those that attended. The day ended with a baked potato bar social in remembrance of some of the early hot lunches in country school that were a potato baked in the coals during the morning school session. The last country school around Lyons closed in 2006.



Remembering the Good Old Days



Enjoying a meal together



Snyder Public Library's "Visions of the Universe" display. L-R—Connie Kaup, Betty Niewohner (library director) Teresa Wilcox, Evelyn Neesen
Over 400 have visited the exhibit.

Neihardt Spring Conference

The 28th annual conference will be on April 25 at the John G. Neihardt State Historic Site in Bancroft. The day includes several speakers and original works of contemporary native American Art from the University of South Dakota will be on exhibit. For more information. Contact the system office for a registration form.

WELCOME

The Valparaiso Public Library has a new director, Maria Cadwallader. The library also has a lot of new members on their board. In the near future they will be doing a survey of patrons and potential patrons in the hopes of making a lot of improvements. Maria is looking forward to meeting other library directors and getting as much advice and help from them as possible.



Gretna

The Gretna Public Library received a generous grant from the Toyota Motor Corporation. They were one of 200 libraries that received a set of 50 translated books of modern Japanese fiction and non-fiction. The translated works are from award winning authors and they provide a wondrous sampling of works popular in Japan.

Waterloo

A very nice volunteer appreciation luncheon was held at the Agnes Robinson Waterloo Public Library honoring many including the director and assistant's husbands. Volunteers were presented a certificate from the Village Board Chairman, Stan Benke, plus a mug with a picture of the library and a copy of "Chicken Soup for the Volunteer's Soul." They were encouraged to read the book and then pass it on to someone in hopes that their spirit of volunteering would inspire that someone too.



Julie Jorgensen, Stan Benke, Linda Oyster

On March 7th the library started their first ever Wii tournament. They demonstrated the Wii to whoever came to the monthly "Senior Coffee" for those 55 and older.

National Library Week is April 12-18

Go to the American Library Association web site for ideas

<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/hqops/pio/natlibraryweek/nlw.cfm>



More System News

Fremont

All elementary, middle and high schools students in Fremont will benefit from grant money Keene Memorial Library has received from Fremont Area Foundation, Keene Memorial Library Friends and the Friends Trust to give a library card to every student who does not reside in the city limits but attends a Fremont school. The library will be hosting sign up parties for the 648 students eligible.

Papillion

The Sump Memorial Library, Papillion, is holding an edible food festival. Food related to a book title is featured such as *Catcher in the Rye* (a loaf of rye bread on a catcher's mitt). Last year the event was just for library staff, but it is open to the community this year.

Bellevue

The 6th Annual "Seuss-athon" held at the Bellevue Public Library has its biggest turn out yet with just over 200 participants.



UNO School Library Media Program Receives National Recognition from AASL!

Dr. Rebecca Pasco is excited to announce that the UNO School Library Media program has received the status of "Nationally Recognized" from the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education programs (NCATE). Only 40 programs in the entire country have been awarded this status by AASL in conjunction with NCATE. The UNO program is now listed on the ALA website for Nationally Recognized NCATE/AASL Reviewed and Approved School Library Media Education Programs at:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/aasleducation/schoollibrarymed/ncateaslrviewed.cfm#Nebraska>

The process of attaining National Recognition is a long and arduous five year journey but well worth the time and effort as the recognition celebrates the excellence and commitment of the programs' outstanding students, dedicated faculty, and supportive department and college administrators. Dr. Pasco and her faculty extend a sincere and heartfelt "Thank You" to their colleagues in the Nebraska library community who have, from the very beginning, played an key role in the development of library science education in Nebraska.

Did you know that besides all the libraries that Andrew Carnegie funded in the early 1900s, he also donated 7000 church organs?

→→→ Please Note:

Our email addresses have changed

Kathy—ktooker@windstream.net

Nancy—nrmeyer@windstream.net

Upcoming Events

April 1-3—Mountain Plains Library Association Conference, Wichita

April 3—CLICK Meeting, Wahoo PL 9:30 am

April 3—Soaring to Excellence: Library Challenges & Opportunities: Diversity Beyond the Obvious. To register go to www.nlc.state.ne.us and search on the training calendar by using DuPage

April 10—ELS Board Meeting, Buffet Middle School, Omaha—9:30 am

April 13—Spring Colloquium— (see page 17)

April 16—Soaring to Excellence: an Ounce of Prevention: Health Reference Basics. To register go to www.nlc.state.ne.us and search on the training calendar by using DuPage

April 17, 24 & May 1—Basic Skills, Gretna Public Library

April 18—Media Specialist Day, UNO—see webpage www.elsne.org

April 30/May 1—Glennor Shirley Correctional Libraries Workshop (see page 14)

May 1—NLA Public Library and Trustee Section Spring Meeting— see page 10

May 15—NLA C&U Spring Meeting

June 12—ELS Annual Meeting, UNO

July 9-15, 2009-American Library Association 2009 Conference, Chicago
<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/index.cfm>

July 20-24—Nebraska Library Leadership Institute (see webpage www.elsne.org)

Youth Book Awards

Newberry Medal:

The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman

Newbery Honor books:

The Underneath by Kathi Appelt

The Surrender Tree: Poems of Cuba's Struggle for Freedom by Margarita Engle

Savvy by Ingrid Law

After Tupac & D Foster by Jacqueline Woodson

Caldecott Medal:

The House in the Night illustrated by Beth Krommes, written by Susan Marie Swanson

Caldecott Honor books:

A Couple of Boys Have the Best Week Ever written and illustrated by Marla Frazee

How I learned Geography written and illustrated by Uri Shulevitz

A River of Words: The Story of William Carlos Williams illustrated by Melissa Sweet, written by Jen Bryant

Geisel Award:

Are You Ready to Play Outside? written and illustrated by Mo Willems

Sibert Medal:

We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball by Kadir Nelson

Printz Award:

Jellicoe Road by Melina Marchetta

Author Awards

Margaret A. Edwards Award (lifetime achievement in writing for young adults)

Laurie Halse Anderson

Laura Ingalls Wilder Award (substantial and lasting contribution to literature for children)

Ashley Bryan, author and illustrator

Young Adult Librarians in Nebraska Unite!

Dear YART (Young Adult Round Table) members and any and all interested Youth Services Librarians, Susan Steider and Dr. Becky Pasco invite you to attend a YART organizational meeting on Sunday, April 19th at 11:00 a.m. for a meeting/discussion about:

- current issues in young adult librarianship,
- activities for young adult librarians involving professional development, networking and fun, and
- communications vehicles for our YART group

The meeting will be held at the Mahoney State Park Lodge (on I-80 between Lincoln and Omaha) and will include brunch. Dr. Pasco is paying for brunch that morning for those attending.

To ensure we reserve enough space for the meeting, please RSVP to Susan Steider at s.steider@lincolnlibraries.org by Wednesday, **April 15th** if you plan to attend .

Thank you for your interest in library service to young adults in Nebraska.

Susan Steider

Lincoln City Libraries

402-441-4250

s.steider@lincolnlibraries.org

Dr. Becky Pasco

UNO Library Science Education

402-554-2119

rpasco@unomaha.edu



Resources For Youth Services Librarians & Media Specialists

Free Comic Book Day

Free Comic Book Day is a single day when participating comic book shops and libraries give away comic books absolutely free to anyone. It takes place on Saturday May. 2 Find out more information and a list of the comics at <www.freecomicbookday.com>.

Toon Books, <www.toon-books.com>, is a collection of high-quality comics for young children. The books are designed for emerging readers to read for themselves. Three titles include lesson plans: *Otto's Orange Day*, *Barney and Penny*, and *Silly Lilly*. [Seen in *Library Sparks*, March 2009]

Top Shelf Fiction for Middle School Readers is a bibliography put out by VOYA. Publishers submit nominations for the list that is reviewed by students with final selection done by a committee composed of media specialists and a young adult public librarian. The list of 30 annotated titles is found in VOYA, February 2009. Five of these are selected for the Top of the Top Shelf.

1. *The Big Splash* by Jack D. Ferraiolo
2. *The Possibilities of Sainthood* by Donna Freitas
3. *The Big Field* by Mike Lupica
4. *Keeping Corner* by Kashmira Sheth
5. *Antsy Does Time* by Neal Shusterman

Advocacy Resources

ALA has two good toolkits to help library advocates make their case at the local level. In addition to the Advocating in Tough Economic Times Toolkit, there is one aimed toward librarians involved in youth development and education — Add It Up: Libraries Make the Difference in Youth Development and Education. Check out the toolkit, located at <www.ala.org/issuesadvocacy/advocacyuniversity>, for reliable data to support your advocacy message. Select by age group, preschool, Kindergarten– Middle School, and Teens. Talking points are given for both public libraries and school library media programs.

Gaming Grants

Libraries are changing and dynamic places, and no better evidence of that exists than the spread of gaming in the nation's public, school and academic libraries.

In recognition of this trend and the increasing value of gaming to literacy improvement, the American Library Association, with assistance from a \$1 million grant from the Verizon Foundation, has developed an online toolkit to aid librarians in serving this growing constituency.

The Librarian's Guide to Gaming: An Online Toolkit for Building Gaming @ your library (<http://www.librarygamingtoolkit.org/>) offers content contributed by expert gaming librarians across the country. The toolkit includes a wide range of resources to help librarians create, fund and evaluate gaming experiences in the library.

Games, from traditional chess games to authentic board games to popular video games, help libraries fulfill their mission by providing educational, cultural and recreational resources for patrons of all ages.



Remember! Eastern Library System has a Wii and games available for loan to system member libraries. Call the system office to reserve it.

The next CLICK meeting will be held at the Wahoo Public Library on April 3, 2009, 9:30 am. We will be discussing policies relating to children in the library. If you have policies bring them along.

They can relate to internet usage, behavior, parental responsibility vs. library staff responsibility or any other type of situation that would best be dealt with by having a policy already in place.

Contact Carrie Trutna if you can attend.

carrie@wahoo.ne.us

➔From John Seyfarth,
NLA Public Library and Trustee Section Chair

NLA Public Library and Trustee Section (PLTS) 2009 Spring Meetings

The 2009 Spring Meetings are being brought to you by the Public Library and Trustee Section (PLTS) of the Nebraska Library Association. Our host libraries this year are the Wahoo Public Library (May 1st), the Bridgeport Public Library (May 6th), and the Lexington Public Library (May 7th). **Please join us May 1st, 6th, or 7th from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Registration form is below.**

Agenda

- Legalities of Public Library Policies and Procedures - Adam Prochaska, Attorney at Law, Lincoln (by Skype at Lexington and Bridgeport) - 10:00 - 11:00 AM
- Dealing with Mentally Ill Persons and Patrons - Wanda Butts, Sump Memorial Library, Papillion - 11:00 AM - Noon
- Lunch - Noon - 1:00 PM
- Open Source Integrated Library Systems Statewide Project - Greg Mickells, Deputy Director, Lincoln City Libraries - 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM
- Using Skype in the Library as a Communications Tool - John Seyfarth, Sump Memorial Library, Papillion - 2:00 - 3:00 PM

Send your registration to: Richard Miller Nebraska Library Commission The Atrium, 1200 N St., Suite 120 Lincoln NE 68508-2023. **Deadline April 25, 2009**

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____
LIBRARY _____
E-MAIL: _____

VEGETARIAN LUNCH? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please check the day that you will be coming: ☐ **Friday, May 1st**, Wahoo Public Library, 637 North Maple St., Wahoo, NE ☐ **Wednesday May 6th**, Bridgeport Public Library, 722 Main St., Bridgeport, NE ☐ **Thursday May 7th**, Lexington Public Library, 907 N Washington St.,

Lexington, NE

Registration Fee: \$15 payable to NLA Public Library and Trustee Section

Excalibur!

It is time to be thinking of who to recognize at the October conference in LaVista as the PLTS winner of the Excalibur Award for top Public Librarian. I have appointed what I think is a great committee to consider nominations for the award. Chair is our last year's winner, Steve Fosselman, Director of the Grand Island Public Library. On the committee is Patsy Arnold, also at Grand Island Public, and Pam Soreide, Director of the Holdrege Area Public Library. The deadline for nominations is **August 1st**, but the earlier the better. Give our committee time to consider who is the outstanding librarian in our section. You can find a nomination form at <http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/PLTS/excalibur.html>

Nominations should be sent to Steve Fosselman sf@gi.lib.ne.us. If you're going to submit a nomination, consider having some of your colleagues send supporting letters to Steve as well. They are very helpful to making sure that the best candidate receives the award.

Public Library and Trustee Section Call for Presentations at NLA/NEMA Conference

We have a need for presentations from our Public Library and Trustees Section for the October 2009 NLA/NEMA Conference in LaVista. We will have a brand new venue, more appropriately sized for our conference in 2009, and our section members have lots of good ideas on how to make our public library missions more effective. We have a need for presentations in a number of areas pertinent to public libraries including, but not limited to:

- Gaming
- Social Networking
- Trustees and Library Boards
- Ancestry Research
- Integrated Library Systems, such as open source
- Legal issues, policies and procedures
- Relationships with patrons, the public
- Marketing
- Facility Maintenance Planning
- Services facilitating job seekers efforts

The proposal form can be found at <http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/conference>. Please also send an info copy to me, and in just about all cases, the Public Library and Trustee Section will be more than glad



**NORFOLK PUBLIC LIBRARY'S
15TH ANNUAL LITERATURE FESTIVAL**

SATURDAY, JULY 25, 2009 / 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE / LIFELONG
LEARNING CENTER, 801 East Benjamin Avenue, Norfolk, NE

FEATURING:

HENRY COLE

2010 Golden Sower Award nominee for *ON MEADOWVIEW STREET* <http://www.henrycole.net>

JACQUELINE DAVIES

2010 Golden Sower Award nominee for *THE LEMONADE WAR*
<http://www.jacqueline-davies.net/>

CYNTHIA KADOHATA

2010 Golden Sower Award nominee for *CRACKER!: THE BEST DOG IN VIETNAM* <http://www.kira-kira.us/>

ALSO: 2009-2010 Golden Sower Previews by Karen Drevo & Marci Retzlaff; Book Display & Discount Sales by Norfolk Public Library Foundation of titles by Cole, Davies, & Kadohata; Sales of Golden Sower Items; Autograph Session/Book Signing with Henry Cole, Jacqueline Davies & Cynthia Kadohata; Door Prizes; 5 Continuing Education Hours (for all day attendance) from the Nebraska Library Commission for School & Public Librarians; 5 Professional Growth Points (for all day attendance) for Teachers/Staff employed by Norfolk Public Schools

TICKETS: Youth (18 & under): \$5.00/advance & \$7.50/door
Adults: \$20.00/advance & \$25.00/door

!Free admission for current SCYP members!

Advance tickets are available at Norfolk Public Library OR by mail order. To order tickets by mail, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope with full payment (make checks payable to "Norfolk Library Foundation--Literature Festival") to:

Literature Festival
Norfolk Public Library
308 W. Prospect Avenue
Norfolk, NE 68701

For more information, contact Karen Drevo at NPL by phone (402/844-2108) or e-mail kdrevo@ci.norfolk.ne.us

From Sally Snyder, Coordinator Children & YA Library Services at the Nebraska Library Commission

More good news! The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission issued a press release on Feb. 6, 2009 in part stating that there would be no penalties imposed on anyone "making, importing, distributing, or selling" an ordinary children's book printed after 1985.

The Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act has been in the news lately due to the fact that, as it read before this press release, books for 12-year-olds and under are sub-

ject to testing for lead, and libraries have not been excluded. Your teen and adult collections do not fall under this law.

I hope you all have very few (if any) books printed before 1986 in your children's collections. If you do, now is the time to weed them. If it is a classic you could consider buying a new copy; the fresh look may encourage readers to check it out.

To read ALA's Washington Office blog entry, with a link to the press release, go to:

<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?paged=2> entry title "Consumer Product Safety Commission Spells Out Policy on Lead Law."

Check it out! NebraskAccess, the portal to information databases for Nebraska residents since 2003, has a new look and a new URL: <http://nebraskaccess.ne.gov>. The new NebraskAccess site integrates the statewide subscription databases with the web resources selected by librarians, formerly found in the Nebraska Library Commission's "Best of the Web." Topic headings lead users to both free and subscription resources. The Librarian's Toolbox, which contains promotional and training material for library staff, will remain on the Nebraska Library Commission home page. It is located at:

<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/nebraskaccess/toolbox>.

Authentication for the subscription databases has been simplified in nebraskaccess.ne.gov. If a computer's IP address has not been registered, the user is sent to a login screen only after choosing a subscription database. The same NebraskAccess password provided to your library last year will work until new ones are assigned in March. If your library needs a password or if your library's IP addresses have changed, please contact nebraskaccess@nlc.state.ne.us. And residents may still use their Nebraska driver's license or State ID number to access the subscription databases.

The Nebraska Library Commission's home page will no longer link to the old NebraskAccess site; however, the former NebraskAccess site will be accessible until June 30, 2009. Just use your existing links, bookmarks or the URL. Information on how to link to the new site can be found in the Librarian's Toolbox at <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/nebraskaccess/toolbox>. Over the upcoming weeks we will be working on updating the promotional material to match the new site.

Try out the new NebraskAccess and let us know what you

Eastern Library System Board Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2009 -

Kripke Jewish Federation Library, Omaha

Present: Denise Lawver, Rosa Schmidt, Gayle Roberts, Mary Jo Mack, Lowen Kruse, Jan Therian, Carrie Turner, Scott Berryman, John Seyfarth.

Alternates: Tammy Lorenz, Dorothy Willis. Sally Snyder, Nebraska Library Commission, Kathy Tooker, Nancy Meyer.

Introductions: Tammy Lorenz told the board about the Beemer situation. Gary Katz, director of the Kripke library, gave a brief history of the library which is open to the public but mainly serves the Jewish community.

The minutes of the December 12, 2008, meeting were reviewed. Jan moved and Carrie seconded to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

The treasurer's reports for December, 2008 and January 2009 were reviewed. After discussion on some of the negative amounts in a few line items, the reports were approved to be filed for audit.

Correspondence: Kathy read thank-you notes from Springfield and Wahoo for the grants received from ELS.

Administrator's Report: See written report. Kathy highlighted items and upcoming events including a visit to a correctional library, a Future Search executive report, and the Leadership Institute. She reported that the Valparaiso Public Library is currently without a director. This year's Spring Colloquium will be funded by academic libraries.

Sally Snyder passed out a written report on the activities of the Nebraska Library Commission.

Committee Reports:

Continuing Education - The CLICK and DIRECT meetings are going strong. A future workshop on marketing is being planned. The Annual Meeting will be June 12th at UNO. A scholarship was given to Rosa Schmidt to attend the ALA conference.

Nominating: Robin and Marie are up for re-election. Denise has served two terms and Carrie has served one term and has declined re-election. Suggested names to fill the two board vacancies are Gail Formanack and David Privett.

Technology: John talked about the newest Windows operating system – Windows 7.

Fundraising: The committee is working on several projects.

Advocacy: There was discussion on the recent NLA Legislative Day.

Old Business:

Personnel Policy – Dorothy moved to approved the changes in the personnel policy. Motion carried.

New Business:

Office Space – Kathy distributed a floor plan of the new office. The move will be made the month of May.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Meyer, ELS Administrative Assistant

Next Meeting: April 10, 2009 - Buffett Middle School, Omaha

Mad Hatter Award 2009

Presented by Child's World and the School, Children's and Young People's Section of NLA



PURPOSE To recognize an individual member of the Nebraska Library Profession who has made an outstanding contribution to School, Children's and Young People's librarianship and library development.

CRITERIA Individual nominated should have demonstrated achievements in the following areas:

- Imaginative interpretation of library services
- Development of innovative and creative programming for children and young adults
- Demonstration of professional contributions to regional, state, and national library organizations, publications, and/or presentations

*Nominee **MUST** be a member of the School, Children's and Young People's Section of NLA.

I nominate _____

(Name)

(Present address)

Nominee's library affiliation _____

Please attach sheets describing the achievements of your nominee. **All three criteria listed above must be addressed in your nomination.** You should include documentation in the form of several support letters from staff, parents, board members or others, each letter identifying the writer as to what role they play in libraries and their relationship to the nominee. It is highly recommended that photos of the person working with patrons be submitted as well as samples of programs, creativity, etc. that this person has done. Any documentation or detail that you can send supporting your nominee's qualifications and that assist the Mad Hatter Committee in making a judgment will be very helpful. Make sure all professional leadership is noted, especially SCYP membership. Using letter or essay format, follow these three headings:

Interpreting library services to the community

Developing innovative programming

Demonstrating professional leadership

Nominated by _____

Relationship to nominee _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Check one: I am a _____ Member of NLA _____ School Administrator
_____ Public Library Administrator

**Please return the nomination form and supporting materials by August 1, 2009, to
Patty Birch, North Platte High School, 1220 West 2nd Street, North Platte, NE 69101**

April 30 (9 am—4 pm) &

May 1 (9 am-Noon)

Gallery Room in Milo Bail Student Center
University of Nebraska-Omaha
6001 Dodge St. Omaha

Glennor Shirley

Library Coordinator

Correctional Education Libraries— Maryland



Please join us for an exciting interactive workshop with Ms. Shirley. The day and a half workshop will:

- Provide a forum to discuss daily issues that confront prison libraries and librarians.
- Identify local and nationwide trends that have impact on corrections and libraries.
- Provide participants with a strategy/plan for each library or group of libraries in addressing challenges.
- Provide a resource list of websites, journal articles, and funding.
- Discuss gang activities and information on dealing with these issues.

Shirley currently oversees the service and programs for Maryland's 25,000 inmates across 14 prisons and eight prerelease institutions. In today's political climate, it's hard to convince politicians to provide funds for prison libraries, but Shirley takes a longer view:

"About 15,000 inmates go out every year," she says. It costs about \$27,000 per year to house a prisoner in Maryland. "I prefer my tax dollars to go toward programs that will help the prisoner become a taxpayer later on." (*Library Journal*, 3/15/2003)

Shirley is Chair of ALA, ASCLA, Library Services to Special Populations and a regular contributor to ALA/OLOS "Behind the Walls" column which has included addressing library service to disadvantaged user groups, and outreach to prisons and connecting inmates and the public library. In 2003 she was the recipient of the American Libraries Maresh Award for developing a CD ROM "Discovering the Internet @ Your Library" and the 2008 James Partridge Award for Outstanding African American Information Professional. You can find more information on Shirley and her efforts at: <http://prisonlibrarian.blogspot.com>.

While the workshop is certainly intended to assist librarians working in correctional facilities, the program is also recommended to one person, special, institutional, public and other libraries that serve the underserved - including offenders and ex-offenders re-entering the community.

CE credits: 9 hrs.

Registration deadline: **April 24, 2009**

Please send registration to: SELS Library System, 5730 R St., Ste. C-1, Lincoln, NE 68505.

Name _____

Library _____

Email _____

Registration Cost is **\$10** with lunch at the student center on your own.

**There is an opportunity to tour the Omaha Correctional Center (OCC) on May 1 from 5-6 p.m.
Please let us know if you'd like to tour.**

This workshop is sponsored by a grant in conjunction with Southeast Library System, University of Nebraska-Omaha and the NE Dept. of Corrections, supported in part by state aid funding appropriated by the Nebraska Legislature, ganted and administered by the Nebraska Library Commission

Going the Extra Mile

The Eastern Library System wants to recognize people in the System who put extra effort in providing quality library service to the residents in their community/area by offering two (2) going the Extra Mile Awards annually: one to a library employee and one to a volunteer. Nominations may focus on, but are not limited to, the following: customer service, library promotion, advocacy, technology development, library support (time, talents) and innovative programs.

Along with the nomination form, include a letter of support and sent to:

Eastern Library System

11929 Elm Street, Suite 12

Omaha, NE 68144

Deadline: May 1, 2009

Recipients will be announced at the Eastern Library System Annual Meeting on June 12, 2009, held at UNO

Name of Nominee_____

Address_____Phone _____

Your Name_____Phone _____

I nominate_____because: (use additional sheet if necessary)

Asking the *Right* Questions



Stacey Aldrich

Spring Colloquium 2009



Stacey Aldrich, Deputy State Librarian for California State Library in Sacramento, formerly assistant director at Omaha Public Library, wants to know:

When it comes to the future, which kind of person are you?

- A. One who **lets** it happen?
- B. One who **makes** it happen?
- C. One who **wonders** what will happen?

Come find out which crystal balls and questions Aldrich uses to help her divine the future of

Monday-April 13, 2009 5:30-9:30 p.m.

at The Cornhusker Marriott Hotel 333 S. 13th Street, Lincoln, NE

Yankee Hill I & II

Schedule of Events

5:30 – 6:30	Social hour, cash bar
6:30 – 7:30	Dinner
7:30 – 8:30	Presentation by Stacey Aldrich
8:30 – 9:30	Discussion

Dinner: Seafood Newburg, Maple Grilled Pork Loin, or Champagne Pasta. Chocolate Mousse for dessert.

YES! I want to participate in the Spring Colloquium 2009: Stacey Aldrich

Name _____ Library _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please choose one: ☐ Seafood Newburg ☐ Pork Loin ☐ Pasta

Send completed registration form & payment of **\$35.00** to: **Southeast Library System**,
5730 R St., Ste. C-1, Lincoln, NE 68505. Deadline: **Wednesday April 8, 2009.**